

DOCTOR • WHO

REIGN OF THE STONE MONKEY

PART ONE

Script CHRISTOPHER COOPER
Art JOHN ROSS
Colours ALAN CRADDOCK
Letters PAUL VYSE

Ancient China.

It is late,
children. Time
for your bed.

Tell us
a story,
Grandfather.

Tell us the
story of the
man in the box.

And the
Monkey King!

And the metal
dragon!

Oh, come now. You've
heard that tale *so*
many times. Are you
certain you don't want
to hear another?

Grandfather!

Very well.
If I must.

It all happened so *very*
long ago, when I was
just a boy, not much
older than you are now.
But I remember as if it
were yesterday.

"In those days I used
to run everywhere,
as fast as I could.
It was as if the west
wind *lifted* my feet."

"I was collecting firewood for
my uncle, when suddenly..."

It started when young Li bumped into the TARDIS...

Hello there! Tang dynasty, yes? *Perfect*. I don't suppose you know a Chan Chiu, do you? Lives near here. The old girl got the coordinates a little *muddled*...

But... Chan Chiu... He is my uncle, sir.

Really? *Brilliant!* You couldn't point me in the right direction, could you?

Lil Go and help your mother prepare our evening meal. The Doctor and I have important matters to discuss.

Some of us resisted. Myself. The boy's father... But then people started *disappearing*. When the curfew began I... lost the will to fight.

Well it's a good job I popped by. Where can I find these 'demons'?

"I led this strange visitor to my uncle's house, and my uncle was very pleased to see him."

Doctor! Old friend!
It is so *good* to see you.
You haven't aged a day in
all these years. But quickly,
come inside. It is getting
dark and the *curfew*
begins soon.

Curfew?
This was a *happy*,
safe place last time
I was here.

That was
before *they*
came.

Who?

Demons!

Ohhh!

So. These
demons...?

They claim to be *immortal spirits*.
When they first arrived, *all*
they asked for was somewhere
to rest their heads and
a square meal.

That was a
year ago.

Their heads
must *really* have
needed the rest.
Go on.

Before we knew
what had happened
they *controlled* us all.
They raised taxes and
stole crops.

The Temple in
Qingyang. I can
show you the way.

No, Li, it is too
dangerous.

I owe it to my
father to rid Gansu
province of these
beasts.

Besides, I'll be
safe with the
Doctor, and who
would suspect
a boy travelling
with his *elderly*
grandfather?

"We made our plans,
and the next morning we
set out for the city."



This place
has *certainly*
seen better
times.

Watch out.
Soldiers!



I used to *admire*
the soldiers. I dreamt
of joining their ranks
when I grew up. But
when the demons
came, they *changed*.

Of course. *Telepathic
Control Terminals*.
The soldiers didn't
change sides, Li. Their
thoughts are being
controlled by your
'demons'.



LI! NO!



I am sorry
for your pain,
but our need is
greater.



The Doctor and Li
run to safety...





Really? How quickly did these demons seize power?

It was almost overnight. It was as if the soldiers *awoke* one morning with a new commander.



Those things on their helmets, I *wonder* what they are? Transmitters or... No, *transceivers*!



The demons have *power* over their souls? That is powerful *magic*, Doctor. We have no hope of beating them!

Yes we do! These *invaders* may be a right bunch of dodgy demons, but *believe* me there is no magic involved. Just illegal, non-Earth technology, and a big fat lump of *greed*.



If we could get hold of one of those transceivers, I might be able to *short circuit* the central controller and shut down the whole network.

Then there is a *chance* we'll get the troops back on our side.

You speak in *riddles*, Doctor. We do not have time for riddles.



Now, where has that young scamp got to?

In here Doctor. *Quickly!*



This is cosy. What is this? Some kind of priest hole?

In even *darker* times than these, secret routes were needed to escape the temple. Few know of their existence.

They'll *soon* realise we've made for the temple. We need to get a wriggle on. Lead the way, and let me have a look at that *transceiver*.



That should do the trick.

We are close to the main chamber.

Soon the Doctor and Li arrive outside the chamber...

The Chamber of Prayer. But the door is *locked* from the inside.

Not a problem. We'll have this open in a jiffy or two. Or three.

Doctor. Are... are *you* a demon?

No such thing as demons, Li. *Technically* speaking. Though there are those wingy-faced towel things on Prkarrious IX...

I've heard of stuffing your savings under your mattress, but this is ridiculous!

So much gold. But the people *starve*. This is not right. How could the Governor *allow* this to happen?

They gave me no choice.

Raise your hands where I can see them. What are you doing here? Who are y...

WHO DARES TO DESECRATE THE TEMPLE OF THE MONKEY KING?

CRUSH THE INTRUDERS!

EEEEEEEEOOOOOOOWWWWWW!
FIND OUT WHAT HAPPENS TO THE DOCTOR NEXT WEEK!